SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Sir, is it only a solitary instance; or are there similar other instances and, if so, have Government taken any action in respect of them?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" As far as I am aware, it is only a solitary instance."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Will Government investigate into the matter because I fear there may be several such instances; and if really there are similar other instances, it will not redound to our credit; so will the Hon. Minister investigate into the matter?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" If there are any other similar instances, certainly the hon. Member would have put questions on them. So I take it, this is only a solitary instance."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" I do not know anything about this instance except for the fact that it was published in the *Swatantra*, which I get regularly and read regularly."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" That paper would have given similar other instances, if there are any, and then the hon. Member would have put questions on them."

Grant of certified copies of documents by the Revenue Department.

* 15 *Q.*—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have called for reports with reference to the answers to questions Nos. 20–A and 20–B answered on 17th November 1949 and subsequently to questions Nos. 70–A and 70–B answered on 23rd December 1949 and if so, whether they will lay the same on the table of the House; and

(*b*) whether the Government have issued instructions to the authorities concerned—

(1) to issue single copy stamps; and

(2) to grant certified copies of non-confidential documents by the Revenue Department without insisting on the production of certificates from civil courts?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" (*a*) With reference to question 20-A, the report called for from the Collector of Bellary was received and the information furnished by him was embodied in the answer to the short notice question No. 70–A by the Hon. Member and answered on 23rd December 1949. As regards questions Nos. 20-B, 70-A and 70-B, the reports called for from the Collectors and the Board of Revenue have been received. They do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by placing the reports on the table of the House.

" (*b*) (1) Yes.

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(2) On a perusal of the replies from the Collectors, it is observed that no uniform practice is being followed in the districts. The Government have however under examination the question of issuing suitable general instructions in the matter."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Sir, have instructions been issued now at least to the Collectors to direct the stamp-vendors to issue single copy stamps now at least?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Yes, instructions have been issued on the 4th March 1950 clarifying the position, and instructions have been issued to the Collectors to see that there is no hardship caused."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Sir, what is the reason for the delay in issuing instructions so late as 4th March 1950 when the Hon. Minister stated on the 15th November last that there is no rule prohibiting issue of single copy stamps."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Because it took some time to receive the report from the Collectors and from the Board of Revenue, and there was certain unavoidable delay in it. Further, I have to remind the hon. Member that such things in Government take some time, and cannot be done as expeditiously as in private dealings."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Sir, with regard to the grant of certified copies in Revenue Department except on a certificate from the civil court, may I ask Government to issue general instructions to Collectors that copies may be granted without any certificate being insisted on in the case of ordinary revenue records except those which are confidential and privileged?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" That matter has been examined by Government. From reports received from the Collectors, it is seen that there is no uniformity in it. Government propose to issue instructions very early to the various Collectors to see, as far as possible, that if the application is a bona fide one, to issue certified copies; and so far as the question of instructing judges in the matter, it has to be taken up with the High Court."

Audit Report of Co-operative Societies.

* 16 *Q.*—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the audit report as well as the statements of (1) receipts and charges; (2) assets and liabilities; and (3) profit and loss and trading account are printed and furnished to members of co-operative societies for their consideration before passing the accounts in the general body meetings held by the co-operative societies;